[Translation]

Seizure of Gold and Silver

5867. SHRI DAU DAYAL JOSHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of gold and silver seized during last three years; and

(b) the places from where the smuggled gold and silver were seized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Quantities of contraband gold and silver seized by Customs authorities during the last three years are al follows:

	Quantity (in M.Ts.)		
	1989	*1990*	*1991*
Gold	8.2	5.7	4.9
Silver	99.3	216.4	197.9

(b) Seizure of contraband gold and silver are effected on the sea, in coastal areas, land borders, at International airports as well as in cities.

[English]

Export of Molasses

5868. SHRI PARASRAM BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the export of molasses has been declining;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether huge quantity of molasses has been declared surplus by various State Government;

(d) if so, the latest position of the surplus stock and the manner in which it is utilised or proposed to be utilised; and

(e) the policy of the Government with regard to export of molasses?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) and (b): No, Sir. On the contrary, export of molasses has shown increasing trend as may be seen from the statement below:

Year	*Export (Rs. crores)*
1989-90	17.41
1990-91	21.84
1991-92 (April-February)	37.21

(c) and (d): For the current alcohol year 1991-92 (December 1991 to November 1992), State Governments have reported total estimated production of molasses of 58.195 lakh tones and anticipated requirements (for distillation, cattle feed, etc.), aggregating 65.950 lakh tones.

(e) Export of molasses is allowed after meeting domestic requirements and is allowed subject to the provisions of Molasses Control Order.

Export of Engineering Goods

5869. SHRI B. DEVARAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to provide inputs to the engineering industry to increase the exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the exports targets of engineering goods for the year 1992-93; and

(d) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to increase the exports to Asian and West Asian Countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) The Government has already been providing various inputs to the engineering industry for export production at international prices under the duty exemption scheme and International price Reimbursement Scheme. Priority allotment of steel and pig iron is also made to exporters from domestic sources for export production.

(c) the export target for 1992-93 has not yet been fixed.

(d) Government have sought to promote exports through providing inputs at international prices, following a supportive exchanges rate policy, allowing partial conversion of export earnings at market determined exchange rates, reducing controls and effecting procedural simplifications. In addition, steps being taken to increase exports to Asian and West Asian countries include bilateral discussions at the Joint Commission/Committee level, exchanges of business delegations, participation in trade fairs and exhibitions abroad etc.

Investment and Loans by LIC

5870. SHRI SAYEED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total investment and loans by the Life Insurance Corporation of India as on March 1992 within the country;

(b) the total investment and loans out of above to Central financial institutions/Government agencies; and

(c) the break up of the remaining investment and loans by State/Union Territories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The investment made by the Life Insurance Corporation of India are of the order of Rs. 5242 crores (as on 25.3. 1992).

(b) and (c): The break up of investment and loans is as under:-

(Rs. in crores)

(1) Government and approved securities		2, 641
(2) Plan Loans to State Govts. for Housing, Water Sewerage scheme, State Electricity Boards, State Road Transport Corporations & HDFC;		435
(3) Non-Plan loans to socially oriented sector;		147
(4) Bonds/Loans to Public Sector Corporations, SEBs, SRTC, Water Supply etc.		528
(5) Special Deposit with Government Of India;		180
(6) Loans to Private Sector		1, 185
(7) Short Term Loans		126
	(2) to (7) =	2, 601
	Total:	5, 242